



Virginia Green Events



Profile:



Virginia Beach Neptune Festival Virginia Beach, Virginia

Virginia Green is the Commonwealth of Virginia's campaign to promote environmentally-friendly practices in all aspects of Virginia's tourism industry. **Virginia Green Events** have been thoughtfully planned and designed to minimize the event's impacts on the environment. This event has met the established "core activities" for *Green Events* and has committed to communicate its activities to its participants. Below is a list of this event's "green" activities that participants can expect.

Virginia Beach Neptune Festival

The thirty-fifth annual Virginia Beach Neptune Festival Boardwalk Weekend took place at the Virginia Beach oceanfront from September 26 –28, 2008. The festival includes the North American Sandsculpting Championship, Atlantic Regatta, Volley Ball, Wrestling, 8K Run and Surfing competitions, an Arts and Craft Show, A Grande Parade, Fireworks and so much more. Boardwalk Weekend is the Neptune Festival's flagship event and has been recognized as one of the Top 100 Events in North America by the ABA and among the Top 20 Events in the Southeastern US by the Southeast Tourism Society.

Virginia Green Activities. When participating in the Virginia Beach Neptune Festival, you can expect the following practices:

CORE ACTIVITIES for Green Events

- ☒ **Recycling.** Events must provide recycling for its participants. Recycling should be highly visible and made available to the public with clear signage.
 - Aluminum Cans, Plastic Bottles, Glass Bottles, Paper, Cardboard
 - Composting of food and other compostable items
- ☒ **No Styrofoam.** Events should eliminate the use of Styrofoam cups and plates. If you must use disposables, use products that are bio-based, paper, or recyclable.
 - Disposable cups, containers, and cutlery made of bio-based materials, recyclable, recycled content or compostable.
- ☒ **Printed Materials.** Recycled-content, soy-based inks, and 2-sided copies -- and quantities should be minimized whenever possible!
 - Use electronic registration, correspondence and forms
 - Print brochures and other printed items on recycled content paper
 - Purchase/use all paper products with high recycled content
- ☒ **Waste Reduction.** Event planners should make a general commitment to reduce the amount of waste generated by their event.

- Choose a location/venue that shares a similar commitment to the environment
- Venue has visible recycling containers, "Got Junk" will collect and recycle trash created by vendors and sponsors.
- Contract for environmentally-friendly, portable restrooms
- Encouraging exhibitors and vendors to minimize wastes and provide for recycling of boxes and other set up wastes.
- Encourage the use of mass-transit and/or carpooling to the event.
- Serve food items that are sustainable, organic or locally grown
- Use non-bleached napkins or maintain supply of cloth napkins
- Avoid boxed lunches

☒ **Green Signage.** Event planners must commit to **tell their participants about *how green*** the event is. Event signage should include the *Virginia Green* logo and list all "green activities" practiced in the planning and operation of the event.

- Posted web-link to the Virginia Green Events webpage
- Created a green event section on your event's webpage highlighting green activities
- Posted signs at registration which lists all of your green activities
- Used the Virginia Green logo on signs and at recycling centers
- Tried to quantify greening efforts and post estimates of impacts reduced.

☒ **Your Green Statement.** Why Are You "Greening" Your Event?

"As leaders in our community, the Neptune Festival wants to lead by example when it comes to going green. Our mission is to provide entertainment and events that allow all to "Celebrate Our Community". This new effort will ensure we do so responsibly and through our example encourage individuals and households to do the same, helping to keep our community green."

For more information on the **Virginia Beach Neptune Festival**, see www.neptunefestival.com or contact Leo Ortiz at leo@neptunefestival.com.

For more information on **Virginia Green** program, see www.deq.virginia.gov/p2/viriniagreen. Click on "Events" for a more of green events.



Virginia Green is a partnership supported by the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, the Virginia Hospitality & Tourism Association, and the Virginia Tourism Corporation.

